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surplus funds for special investigations in matters pertaining to the objects of the association, and to publish reports of such investigations. The council may also engage in the regular publication of reports, papers, transactions, and other matters in an annual volume, or in such manner and at such time as it may determine, with the approval of the association.

"The council shall keep a careful record of its proceedings and make an annual report. All arrangements for the annual meetings shall be made by the council; it shall also determine the order of business for each annual meeting and have the same printed for the use of the members during the sessions."

ARTICLE X.

(Former Article IX. unchanged.)

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAN
SOCIETY OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF TRAINING-
SCHOOLS FOR NURSES**

THE eleventh annual convention of the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools for Nurses was held at Washington, D. C., May 1, 2, and 3. Following the plan, which had proved so satisfactory at Pittsburg, of holding the meetings of the convention in the hotel serving as headquarters for members of the society, the Shoreham Hotel was selected for this purpose, and the meetings were held in its Assembly-Room. In response to a desire expressed by many members of the society, evening sessions were arranged for in order that the afternoons might be left free for visiting the many places of interest in Washington, which can only be seen to advantage in the daytime. The attendance at all sessions of the convention was unusually large. The papers were of a very high order of excellence, the discussions spirited and interesting.

The first session was called to order on Monday, May 1, at ten A.M., the president, Miss Georgia M. Nevins, in the chair. The invocation by the Rev. U. G. B. Pierce, of All Souls' Church, was followed by an address of welcome from President Needham, of the George Washington University. Dr. Needham spoke of nursing as one of the oldest of the professions. He showed how it had been affected by the advance in medicine, and how in turn medicine was affected by the improvements in nursing. He called attention to the growing tendency to return to

natural forces to aid nature when stricken with disease, and commented on the very necessary and important work of the nurse in this direction, stating that the nurse's work is the foundation upon which the treatment rests. She must understand the workings of nature and the needs of nature. He commented with great approval upon the careful study, which is the growing feature of our best schools, of domestic science and the properties and preparation of food. He spoke of the truly great opportunities of the nurse for the prevention of disease: her work, he said, lies in "pressing back ignorance." He said it was indeed a glorious profession, in which one might look for no material advantage, no wealth, no fame, no great reputation, simply the chance of doing well what one could do. He welcomed the members present to the "aristocracy of labor and to the nobility of knowledge."

The response to this address was made by Miss Lucy Drown, superintendent of nurses of the Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass.

In the address of the president, which followed, a brief outline of the history of the society was given and attention called to the excellent work which it had accomplished since its formation in Chicago in the year 1903. The president referred in particular to the establishment of the Course in Hospital Economics at Teachers College, which has proved so valuable and which so urgently needs an endowment to place it upon a stable basis, and expressed the hope that another year might see this firmly and permanently established.

The council reported a phenomenally prosperous year in the work of the society. In order to carry on the work it had been necessary for the council to hold three meetings. The committees, both standing and special, had carried on their work with much zeal and energy. Eighty-three applications for membership had been received during the year, of which seventy-one had been approved by the council and would be presented for election. Letters of resignation were read and accepted with regret from Miss Annie McDowell, Miss Ida Sutcliffe, Miss Ada Taylor, and Miss C. Louise Burdett (now Mrs. H. M. Taylor). Letters were read from the Chamber of Commerce in Buffalo and from the Cincinnati League of Cincinnati asking the society to hold its next convention in these cities.

The secretary reported a great increase of work and correspondence, which had rendered much clerical aid necessary. A good deal of interest was shown by outsiders in the work of the society, especially in the requests from public libraries for copies of our "Transactions."

The report of the Publication Committee, which followed, showed an increase in the expense of publishing reports, owing to the demand above referred to, and also to the fact that the importance of the

society and its work seemed to require a more presentable report of these "Transactions." The chairman of this committee reported a large number of copies of the "Transactions" which could be supplied to new members desiring them at a cost of one dollar on application to the secretary. As a result of the action taken in reference to the Buffalo Congress Reports last year, the committee reported a sale of twenty-eight copies through the Superintendents' Society by Miss Alline. Attention was called to the fact that the publisher of these reports has on hand at the present date five hundred and eighty-seven cloth-bound copies and two thousand paper-covered copies. The committee would urge the purchase of this valuable report upon all new members as a publication of much historical interest and value.

The treasurer's report showed the finances of the society in a satisfactory condition, notwithstanding the heavy expenses of the year.

The Committee on Legislation did not report.

The Committee on Education reported that the members had met in New York early in the year, and outlined their plan of work. Desiring to make a searching and comprehensive study of present conditions, it was decided to divide the subject into several branches, assigning a definite branch to each member. The work as outlined asked for careful reports upon the following themes: "Nurses' Homes and School Buildings," "Training-School Libraries," "Scholarships and Tuition Fees," "Salaried Instructors," "Methods of Teaching," and "Preparatory and Post-Graduate Instruction." Forms asking for detailed information were sent out to about five hundred schools, and answers have been received altogether from nearly three hundred. As the work involved in studying, tabulating, and summarizing these statistics proved to be very great, the committee has not been able to complete the report, which we have hoped will serve as a foundation for future records. A paper has, however, been prepared by each member of the committee treating of that part of the subject assigned to her, and these papers are to be presented here as a part of the programme of this convention.

The reading of papers followed, and the subject of "Nurses' Homes and School Buildings" was presented by Miss Mary Gilmour, New York City Hospital, Blackwell's Island, N. Y. In this very interesting paper and in the discussions which followed it was evident that the ideas in regard to nurses' homes are undergoing much transformation, and that single rooms for students, suitable class- and study-rooms, and the other requisites of school buildings will soon be considered a necessity. The magnificent new school buildings of the Presbyterian Hospital, New York City, and the Boston City Hospital, in Boston, were referred to as examples of what may be achieved in this direction.

A paper on "Economy in Hospital Work," by Miss Mary A. Samuel, of the Roosevelt Hospital, New York City, followed. This important subject was presented in a very suggestive way by Miss Samuel, showing the many avenues of waste in various departments of hospital service and the need for expert, vigilant supervision and administration of every department to insure the proper use of supplies and materials. The subject was one which aroused intense interest and enthusiasm, and the discussions showed the general consensus of opinion to be that by far the greatest waste was generally to be found in the use of medical and surgical supplies and appliances, over which the nurses had little if any control.

The afternoon session began with papers on "Training-School Libraries," "Scholarships, Loan Funds, Tuition Fees," which were carefully written by Miss Anna L. Alline, instructor in hospital economics, Teachers College, Columbia University. The papers showed the beginning of libraries, both of general literature and of professional, in many of our training-schools, and outlined the methods of establishing scholarships in the few schools into which they have been introduced.

Miss Annie W. Goodrich, of the New York Hospital, presented a most instructive summary of the results at the present date of the introduction of salaried instruction into training-schools. It was gratifying to find how many of our training-schools are now paying for instruction in subjects in which the teaching for many years has been gratuitous, and to find how greatly the teaching had improved, and how much more satisfactorily the work was carried on under this system.

A paper on "Preparatory Instruction," by Miss M. A. Nutting, superintendent of nurses of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, showed that within the four years since this method was introduced into this country it had become a feature of the systems of instruction in about thirty-five training-schools; this successful development in or in connection with these schools pointing the way to still further improvements in nursing education.

The meeting on the second day opened with the election of seventy-one new members.

The report of Miss Banfield, chairman of the Hospital Economics Committee, showed that the work of the students at the college had been carried on during the year without any marked change, and that the finances were in an unusually satisfactory condition; she called attention, however, to the necessity for placing this course of study on a permanent and stable basis, and urged the interest of the members in a circular which had been prepared giving the history of the work and outlining its needs. The circular appealed for means to establish an Endow-

ment Fund, but particularly for a Guarantee Fund, which would enable them to carry on the work for the next five years. Much interest was aroused by the statement that Miss Grace Dodge, who has done so much for Barnard College, has contributed one hundred dollars a year for the next five years to this course. In concluding her report Miss Banfield stated that she had formally resigned at the beginning of the year, feeling unable to carry on the work. At the request of the other members of the committee she had been induced to remain another year, and again repeated her desire to be relieved of her duties not only because of the press of other matters, but because she felt that the interest in the work should be more widely distributed. On motion Miss Banfield's resignation was accepted with much regret and with many expressions of appreciation of her valuable services during the past four years. Miss Annie W. Goodrich, of the New York Hospital, was elected chairman of this committee in her place.

The Committee on the Constitution read the proposed amendments, prepared at the request of the council, which were ordered printed and distributed to the members to be voted on at the next annual meeting.

The Committee on Incorporation presented a report showing the feasibility of incorporating without great delay or cost. On motion it was decided to instruct the committee to proceed further with the matter.

The morning session closed, and the evening session opened by a brief statement from Mrs. D. R. Kinney, the Superintendent of Army Nurses, in reference to the eligible volunteer list, which she had for some months been trying to establish. Mrs. Kinney stated that in response to the appeal which had been sent out from the Surgeon-General's office to the various schools and alumnae associations throughout the country asking for names of those ready to serve their country in time of war or other emergencies, but twelve applications had been received. In view of the great need for such an emergency list and in order to avoid a repetition of former difficulties and troubles Mrs. Kinney urged upon the members present to aid her in this matter to the fullest extent of their powers.

Miss Mary L. Keith, superintendent of nurses, Rochester Hospital, followed in a paper on the "Introduction of District Nursing into the Training-School Curriculum." Miss Keith spoke clearly and forcibly from the standpoint of one who after considerable experience has found the measure unsatisfactory and is therefore unable to approve of it. In the prolonged and interesting discussion which followed Miss Keith's paper the conclusion seemed to be reached that the full three years were required for the training of nurses within the hospital and under con-

stant supervision; that to supervise properly the work of the pupil nurse in the homes of the poor was an extremely difficult matter to accomplish in any satisfactory way; also, that it added greatly to the duties and responsibilities of the superintendent of nurses, who already has about as much as she can do well to supervise properly the entire system of nursing work within the hospital, and to handle as well the affairs of the training-school. It was also stated that district nursing was a work of extreme importance, requiring as complete and careful a training as any other branch of nursing, in addition to a very special fitness and adaptability for this work, which few pupils possess; and that, finally, it was no more right to send nurses out to learn conditions in the homes of the poor than in the homes of the rich.

A most excellent study of the "Present Status of Educational Methods" was presented by Miss Mary M. Riddle, superintendent of nurses of the Newton Hospital, Newton, Mass. The paper showed many interesting advances of late years, but made it clear that we have much work before us in our efforts to reach the desired degree of uniformity of methods in training-schools.

The last paper of this session was on the subject of "Post-Graduate Instruction," by Miss Clara D. Noyes, superintendent of St. Luke's Hospital, New Bedford, Mass. From Miss Noyes's researches it was very clear that almost nothing in the way of definite post-graduate instruction is to be found in our training-schools. It was shown that the demand for such instruction was large and constantly increasing, and that the very natural wish of nurses to obtain further or special instruction after graduating should be in some way gratified. An interesting outline of a possible post-graduate course was suggested.

The programme closed with this paper, and the president announced that the society would hold its next meeting in New York in May, 1906. The president-elect, Miss Annie W. Goodrich, of the New York Hospital, was here introduced and briefly expressed her appreciation of the honor conferred upon her, and asked the assistance and coöperation of all the members in carrying on for the coming year the important work of the society. She extended to all a most hearty welcome to the convention in New York next year. With many expressions of appreciation and the usual hearty vote of thanks, the meeting adjourned.

At the special request of many members the entertainments at this convention were fewer in number than usual, but they were of the most delightful character and were thoroughly enjoyed by all present. On Tuesday afternoon the Ladies' Committee of the Garfield Hospital gave a very pleasant "tea" in the hospital to the members of the Superintendents' Society, which was largely attended. On Wednesday evening the

Graduate Nurses of the City of Washington gave a reception to the American Federation of Nurses in the Banquet-Room of the Hotel Shoreham. The rooms were beautifully decorated. There was excellent music, and the proverbial Southern hospitality was a characteristic of this entertainment, and of all other arrangements made for the pleasure of the visitors.

On Tuesday an invitation was received from the Spanish-American War Nurses to the unveiling at Arlington of the monument to those nurses who died in the service of their country. The regret was universal that this ceremony had been arranged to take place at a time which rendered it impossible for the members of the society to be present to pay the tribute of reverence and respect which they desired to offer upon such an occasion.

The following officers of the society are elected for the coming year:

President, Miss Annie W. Goodrich, the New York Hospital; first vice-president, Miss Georgia M. Nevins, Garfield Hospital, Washington; second vice-president, Miss Helena McMillan, the Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago, Ill.; secretary, Miss M. A. Nutting, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md.; treasurer, Miss Anna L. Alline, Teachers College, N. Y.; councillors—Miss Jane Delano, Bellevue Hospital, N. Y.; Miss Lucy Walker, the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.; auditors—Miss Hall and Mrs. D. H. Kinney, Superintendent Army Nurses.

M. ADELAIDE NUTTING, Secretary.

SPECIAL CURRICULUM IN HOSPITAL ECONOMICS

TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

1905-1906

ADMISSION—GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. It is desired that all applications be made during the spring and early summer. For application papers apply to the chairman of the Board of Examiners, through Miss A. L. Alline, Teachers College, New York.
2. Each candidate must present to the college a recommendation for admission from the Board of Examiners, certifying to her moral character and her qualifications for undertaking professional work.
3. No candidate can be admitted who is not in good physical condition.